

Energy Efficient HVAC tax credit gives consumers \$300 back and saves money when extreme temperatures hit, other tax credits improve overall home efficiency

Huntington Station, NY – On Saturday, Rep. Steve Israel (D – Huntington) joined Huntington Station homeowners Billii Roberti and Ira Zucker to urge Long Islanders to take advantage of energy efficiency federal tax credits to save money when the summer heat hits and before the tax incentives expire later this year. Energy Star rebates and tax incentives can save consumers hundreds of dollars on the cost of home improvements and upgrades as well as hundreds more in their utility bills.

“We’ve seen the extremes this year on Long Island – biting cold and snow and now scorching summer heat. The result? A big dent in our wallets because of high utility bills,” said Rep. Israel. “A few changes to our homes can reduce our energy bills and get us a tax break. I want to make sure Long Islanders are taking advantage of Energy Star tax breaks and other programs that will improve efficiency, save on utility bills, and help generate jobs in our growing clean technology economy.”

Huntington Station residents Roberti and Zucker recently renovated their home to make it “green” including re-insulating the house, replacing the windows and doors, adding solar panels and upgrading the HVAC unit. They took advantage of federal and local Energy Star credits and rebates, in addition to grant programs.

“I work from home. In the past, I would have to write off hot days like this and just head to the beach, the mall, the movies or sit with my feet in a tub of cold water to keep cool. I knew we were doing a good thing with this renovation, but this heat wave has me smiling from ear to ear,” Roberti said. They now have a geothermal HVAC system to handle the high heat and humidity in summer and the cold in winter.

On December 17, 2010, President Barack Obama signed updated energy efficiency tax credits and incentives into law as part of the Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010. The federal tax credits are set to expire at the end of 2011 if not renewed.

Consumers can qualify for federal Energy Star tax credits on the following home energy efficiency upgrades:

- Heating, Ventilating, Air Conditioning (HVAC) – tax credits up to \$300
- Insulation – tax credit up to \$500
- Water Heaters – tax credits up to \$300
- Windows and Doors – tax credits up to \$500
- Roofs (Metal & Asphalt) – tax credit up to \$500
- Solar Energy Systems – tax credit up to 30% of the cost
- Geothermal Heat Pumps – tax credit up to 30% of the cost

[FOR THE FULL LIST OF TAX CREDITS AND QUALIFICATIONS CLICK HERE](#)

Detailed information on how to qualify and a full list of tax credits is available online at www.israel.house.gov. Energy Efficiency tax credits have a lifetime limit of \$500, but the residential renewable energy tax credits for solar energy systems and geothermal heat pumps are not subject to that limit.

“LIPA is proud to work with Congressman Steve Israel to promote the vital message of energy efficiency and conservation,” said Michael Hervey-COO Long Island Power Authority. “LIPA’s Efficiency Long Island program provides our customers with a wide array of affordable options to make their homes more energy efficient, which will help to reduce their carbon footprint, and lower their energy bills.”

LIPA also offers rebates for Energy Star appliances.

Rep. Israel is the co-chairman of the Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition in the House of Representatives. He has long advocated for ways to improve home energy efficiency to save money and help create clean energy jobs.